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sion. "Southern political theories" are further considered in an essay by Mr. David Y. Thomas. A starting point is made with Jefferson's well known theories; there follows a search for motivating principles in the political practices of the southern states especially in the antebellum period. Apparently in view of the preceding paper no attempt is made at an analysis of Calhoun's position. The material is not always well ordered, doubtless because the author attempted to cover so large a field.

The volume closes with a paper by James W. Garner entitled "Southern politics since the civil war." This calls attention to the prevailing solidarity of the south as evidence of the failure of that region to make progress along political lines comparable with its recent social and economic development. This solidarity is artificial—it did not exist before 1861 and is not logical today. This fact, Mr. Garner holds, explains the absence of great political leaders in the south as well as the lack of real issues and of sound discussion in political campaigns. The idea is already gaining headway that these disadvantages may be avoided by the rise of a strong political party to challenge democratic control over the solid south.

ARTHUR C. COLE

*The facts of reconstruction.* By John R. Lynch, formerly member of congress from Mississippi, formerly temporary chairman of the republican national convention of 1884, formerly fourth auditor of the United States treasury. (New York: Neale publishing company, 1914. 325 p. \$1.50 net)

The author of this book is a Mississippi negro who occupied a prominent place in the politics of the republican party during the reconstruction period. He was a member of the state legislature, speaker of the house of representatives of the famous "shoe string" district. The late Senator Hoar says in his autobiography that Lynch was probably the ablest of the negroes who served with him as a member of the national house. He defeated Powell Clayton of Arkansas for the temporary chairmanship of the national republican convention of 1884, the circumstances of which are fully narrated in his book. He was subsequently fourth auditor of the United States treasury, but was removed by President Cleveland because, he alleges, he refused to give a promise to support the democratic administration.

The book, of course, attempts to justify the policy of the reconstructionists in general, and it contains a defense of the republican administrations of Ames and Alcorn in Mississippi. There is, however, no evidence of bitterness or vindictiveness; and, on the whole, the book is a fair and temperate presentation of the case of the reconstructionists. Being a native born instead of a carpet-bagger and less radical than some

of those who flocked to the state during the reconstruction period, he was uniformly respected by the white people; and upon his retirement from the speakership of the house of representatives in 1873, the white democrats joined with the republican members in presenting him with a testimonial of their appreciation for his impartiality as a presiding officer. His book contains some interesting side-lights on both local and national politics during the period in which he took a prominent part. He tells us how two negroes, Revels and Bruce, came to be elected to the United States senate, and the explanation is not wholly creditable to the intelligence of his party. Thus Revels, a negro preacher who had followed the federal army to Mississippi, was elected senator because of an eloquent prayer which he pronounced at the opening session of the legislature. His account of interviews with presidents Grant and Cleveland and with Blaine, Lamar, and Gresham throws some light upon the questions of national policy and sentiment at that time. He tells us that Grant refused to comply with Governor Ames' request for federal troops in 1875 because Grant had been made to believe that it would lead to the defeat of the republicans in Ohio. Lynch claims to have compelled the president, however, to acknowledge that he committed a mistake in not responding affirmatively to the governor's request for military assistance.

As an illustration of Blaine's lack of understanding of political conditions in the south, Lynch relates an interview with the presidential candidate in 1884 when Blaine told him that Mr. Lamar would see that he was given a fair count in Mississippi. There is an account of a long interview in 1885 with Lamar, who was at that time secretary of the interior. Lynch had gone to him to urge the retention in the government service of a number of negro appointees. The secretary was induced to give a promise that none of them would be molested except a Mississippi white man who had married a negro woman. In spite of Lynch's appeals, the secretary could not be persuaded to retain the official in question and thereby antagonize the sentiment of the white people of Mississippi, and he was therefore removed, but the other negroes were retained in office throughout the administration.

J. W. GARNER

*Reconstruction in Georgia, economic, social, political, 1865-1872.* By C. Mildred Thompson, Ph.D., instructor in history, Vassar college. [Studies in history, economics and public law edited by the faculty of political science of Columbia university, vol. LXIV, no. 1, whole no. 154.] (New York: Columbia university press, 1915. 418 p. \$3.00)

With the appearance of Miss Thompson's *Reconstruction in Georgia*, four monographs are available in this field. The first, by Mr. E. C.